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the Government. The contracting officer must assess liquidated damages at the rate of \$10 per affected employee for each calendar day on which the employer required or permitted the employee to work in excess of the standard workweek of 40 hours without paying overtime wages required by the Act.

- (b) If the contractor or subcontractor fails or refuses to comply with overtime pay requirements of the Act and the funds withheld by Federal agencies for labor standards violations do not cover the unpaid wages due laborers and mechanics and the liquidated damages due the Government, make payments in the following order—
- (1) Pay laborers and mechanics the wages they are owed (or prorate available funds if they do not cover the entire amount owed); and
  - (2) Pay liquidated damages.
- (c) If the head of an agency finds that the administratively determined liquidated damages due under paragraph (a) of this section are incorrect, or that the contractor or subcontractor inadvertently violated the Act despite the exercise of due care, the agency head may—
- (1) Reduce the amount of liquidated damages assessed for liquidated damages of \$500 or less;
- (2) Release the contractor or subcontractor from the liability for liquidated damages of \$500 or less; or
- (3) Recommend that the Secretary of Labor reduce or waive liquidated damages over \$500.
- (d) After the contracting officer determines the liquidated damages and the contractor makes appropriate payments, disburse any remaining assessments in accordance with agency procedures.

[65 FR 46065, July 26, 2000]

### 22.303 Administration and enforcement.

The procedures and reports required for construction contracts in subpart 22.4 also apply to investigations of alleged violations of the Act on other than construction contracts.

## 22.304 Variations, tolerances, and exemptions.

- (a) The Secretary of Labor under 40 U.S.C. 331, upon the Secretary's initiative or at the request of any Federal agency, may provide reasonable limitations and allow variations, tolerances, and exemptions to and from any or all provisions of the Act (see 29 CFR 5.15).
- (b) The Secretary of Labor may make variations, tolerances, and exemptions from the regulatory requirements of applicable parts of 29 CFR when the Secretary finds that such action is necessary and proper in the public interest or to prevent injustice and undue hardship (see 29 CFR 5.14).

[51 FR 12293, Apr. 9, 1986]

#### 22.305 Contract clauses.

The contracting officer shall insert the clause at 52.222-4, Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act-Overtime Compensation, in solicitations and contracts (including, for this purpose, basic ordering agreements) when the contract may require or involve the employment of laborers or mechanics. However, the contracting officer shall not include the clause in solicitations and contracts if it is contemplated that the contract will be in one of the following categories:

- (a) Contracts at or below the simplified acquisition threshold.
- (b) Contracts for supplies, materials, or articles ordinarily available in the open market.
- (c) Contracts for transportation by land, air, or water, or for the transmission of intelligence.
- (d) Contracts to be performed solely within a foreign country or within a territory under United States jurisdiction other than a State, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Outer Continental Shelf Lands as defined in the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331), American Samoa, Guam, Wake Island, and Johnston Island.
- (e) Contracts requiring work to be done solely in accordance with the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act (see subpart 22.6).
- (f) Contracts (or portions of contracts) for supplies in connection with which any required services are merely

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incidental to the contract and do not require substantial employment of laborers or mechanics.

- (g) Contracts for commercial items (see parts 2 and 12).
- (h) Any other contracts exempt under regulations of the Secretary of Labor (29 CFR 5.15).

[51 FR 12293, Apr. 9, 1986, as amended at 53FR 661, Jan. 11, 1988; 60 FR 34758, July 3, 1995;60 FR 48248, Sept. 18, 1995]

# Subpart 22.4—Labor Standards for Contracts Involving Construction

Source: 53 FR 4935, Feb. 18, 1988, unless otherwise noted.

#### 22.400 Scope of subpart.

This subpart implements the statutes which prescribe labor standards requirements for contracts in excess of \$2,000 for construction, alteration, or repair, including painting and decorating, of public buildings and public works. (See definition of Construction, alteration, or repair in section 22.401.) Labor relations requirements prescribed in other subparts of part 22 may also apply.

[53 FR 4935, Feb. 18, 1988; 65 FR 46074, July 26, 2000]

#### 22.401 Definitions.

As used in this subpart—

Building or work generally means construction activity as distinguished from manufacturing, furnishing of materials, or servicing and maintenance work. The terms include, without limitation, buildings, structures, and improvements of all types, such as bridges, dams, plants, highways, parkways, streets, subways, tunnels, sewers, mains, power lines, pumping stations, heavy generators, railways, airports, terminals, docks, piers, wharves, ways, lighhouses, buoys, jetties, breakwaters, levees, canals, dredging, shoring, rehabilitation and reactivation of plants, scaffolding, drilling, blasting, excavating, clearing, and landscaping. The manufacture or furnishing of materials, articles, supplies, or equipment (whether or not a Federal or State agency acquires title to such materials, articles, supplies, or equipment

during the course of the manufacture or furnishing, or owns the materials from which they are manufactured or furnished) is not building or work within the meaning of the regulations in this subpart unless conducted in connection with and at the site of such building or work as is described in the foregoing sentence, or under the United States Housing Act of 1937 and the Housing Act of 1949 in the construction or development of the project.

Construction, alteration, or repair means all types of work done on a particular building or work at the site thereof, including without limitation. altering, remodeling, installation (if appropriate) on the site of the work of items fabricated off-site, painting and decorating, the transporting of materials and supplies to or from the building or work by the employees of the construction contractor or construction subcontractor, and the manufacturing or furnishing of materials, articles, supplies, or equipment on the site of the building or work by persons employed by the contractor or subcontractor.

Laborers or mechanics includes—

- (1) Those workers, utilized by a contractor or subcontractor at any tier, whose duties are manual or physical in nature (including those workers who use tools or who are performing the work of a trade), as distinguished from mental or managerial;
- (2) Apprentices, trainees, helpers, and, in the case of contracts subject to the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, watchmen and guards. The terms "apprentice" and "trainee" are defined as follows:
- (i) Apprentice means (A) a person employed and individually registered in a bona fide apprenticeship program registered with the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, or with a State Apprenticeship Agency recognized by the Bureau, or (B) a person in the first 90 days of probationary employment as an apprentice in such an apprenticeship program, who is not individually registered in the program, but who has